

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A powder having a base substance usable as a powder for  
10 cosmetics, a layer of hydroxyapatite which exists directly on the  
surface of said base substance and a layer of zinc oxide which exists  
directly on the surface of said layer of hydroxyapatite, and containing  
5 to 30 % by weight of the hydroxyapatite and 10 to 50 % by weight  
of the zinc oxide based on the total weight of said powder.

15 2. The powder as defined in claim 1, which is used for cosmetics.

3. The powder as defined in claim 1, which has an adsorbent  
property for sebum components.

4. The powder as defined in claim 1, wherein said base substance  
contains an inorganic powder and contains any one of a clay mineral,  
20 a metal hydroxide, a metal oxide, a composite material thereof,  
and composite material(s) of one or more of these inorganic powders  
with an organic powder, wherein said clay mineral may be a synthetic  
material.

5. The powder as defined in claim 1, wherein said zinc oxide  
25 is at least one of low crystalline zinc oxide and amorphous zinc  
oxide.

6. The powder as defined in claim 1 or 5, wherein said zinc  
oxide has a crystalline size of 1000 Å at the longest as obtained  
from Scherrer's equation.

30 7. The powder as defined in claim 1, wherein said base substance  
has a lamellar shape, a scale-like shape, a plate-like shape or

a bar-like shape.

8. The powder as defined in claim 1, wherein the thickness of said layer of hydroxyapatite is 0.05 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

9. The powder as defined in claim 1, the particle of said  
5 hydroxyapatite is comprised of spicular particle, and the length thereof is 0.1 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$  and the breadth thereof is 0.01 to 0.06  $\mu\text{m}$ .

10. The powder as defined in claim 1, 8 or 9, wherein the mean particle size of said base substance is 0.1 to 600  $\mu\text{m}$  and the mean  
10 particle size of said zinc oxide is 0.001 to 1  $\mu\text{m}$ .

11. The powder as defined in claim 1, wherein the mean particle size of said base substance is 0.1 to 600  $\mu\text{m}$ , the mean particle size of said zinc oxide is 0.01 to 0.03  $\mu\text{m}$  and the particle of said hydroxyapatite is comprised of spicular particle, and the length  
15 thereof is 0.1 to 2  $\mu\text{m}$  and the breadth thereof is 0.02 to 0.04  $\mu\text{m}$ .

12. The powder as defined in claim 1, or 11, the specific surface area of said zinc oxide is 105 to 500  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .

13. A cosmetic comprising the powder as defined in any one of claims 1 to 3.

20 14. The cosmetic as defined in claim 13, containing 0.01 to 90 wt% of said powder.

15. A sebum-adsorbent agent comprising the powder as defined in claim 1 or 3.

16. A body deodorant comprising the powder as defined in claim  
25 1 or 3.